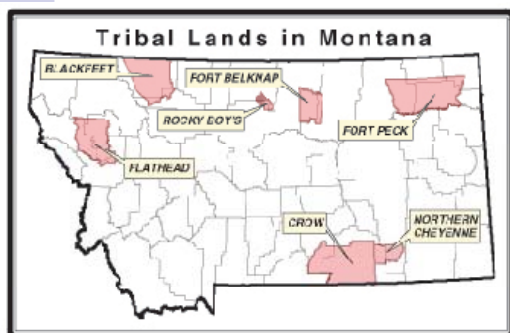


CEIC's Geographic Information System

CEIC's Geographic Information System (GIS) Program can assist with integrating Census or other statistical data into maps or GIS applications. The thematic maps created are visual representations of data which aid in analysis.



Maps facilitate new insights into patterns and relationships and allow explanations to develop by displaying information in meaningful ways. In other words, adding the "where" of the data – the spatial component, allows the "why" and "how" to be more easily seen and understood.

Government Partnerships

The Census and Economic Information Center (CEIC) at the Montana Department of Commerce, in partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau, can offer assistance to Tribal Governments and members in accessing these important data series for use in community planning, economic development, grant writing, and government to government negotiations.

Census and Economic Information Center
Business Resources Division
Montana Department of Commerce
301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200505
Helena, Montana 59620-0505
406.841.2740
406.841.2731 Fax
406.841.2702 TDD
<http://ceic.mt.gov>



The American Community Survey (ACS), part of the U.S. Census Bureau's effort to streamline and improve the census, will provide more timely and accurate demographic, housing, social and economic characteristics. Data released from this annual survey will enhance the users' ability to make better informed decisions and have a fresh look at how communities are changing. 2006 data were released in September 2007 and are available for geographic areas with a population of 65,000 and over.

What about my tribe or my reservation?

The use of American Community Survey data could result in improved utility services, new housing, job training, better school facilities, or new health clinics that benefit you, your family, your community or reservation. For example, the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 requires information about American Indian and Alaska Native households to support training and employment activities. The American Community Survey will provide this critically important information.

Census and Economic Information Center

CEIC provides access to, and education on, using census data and other federal and state statistical resources. Training and assistance with development of GIS applications is also available. CEIC's comprehensive web site allows clients to research and collect Montana data in an easily accessible, accurate and timely manner...and is the most efficient way to compile current Montana statistics released by the U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. Visit CEIC's web site at <http://ceic.mt.gov>

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Photos courtesy of Travel Montana

Spring/Summer 2008

Telling the Story of Your Community



Photo courtesy of Travel Montana

Tribal communities, like other cities and towns across Montana, are changing in many ways. While this may be evident to members of a community, it can sometimes be difficult to explain such characteristics to people who live outside an area. As we look at any community and think of future generations, there are many questions to be answered.



U.S. Census Bureau

Why Use Census Data?

❑ What is the ratio of young people to those of an older generation? Are young people leaving the area or staying? What is the implication of migration?

❑ What is the housing situation in your community, and in what year were the majority of the housing structures built? How does the issue of housing affordability impact people in your community?

❑ How do people in your area earn a living, and what types of businesses are prevalent? What is the average income level for families? How is your local economy different from other geographies in Montana and across the United States?

These questions, and many more, can be answered through using information from the U.S. Census Bureau. Census data can help you tell the story of your community in a way that policy makers, business leaders, and government officials can understand.



Photo courtesy of Travel Montana

American Indians represent 6.5% of Montana's population, but less than 1% of the U.S. population.



Photo courtesy of Travel Montana

Montana is among the top five states for highest percentage of American Indians.



Photo courtesy of Travel Montana

Available Workshops In addition to the following sessions, we can customize training to meet your specific needs.	Tribal Leaders	Legislators	Small Business	General Public	Students	Tribes
American Indian Statistics Workshop This half-day workshop provides practical experience in using Census maps and small area data in developing reservation and community profiles. It emphasizes Census data products for American Indians.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Economic Census Data This half-day, hands-on computer workshop features up to date information from the 2002 Economic Census (the Economic Census profiles American business every 5 years, from the national to the local level.). Major topics include the NAICS (North American Industrial Classification System), retail trade, service industries, construction, manufacturing and County Business Patterns.	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Using Census Data for Funding Proposals This half-day workshop is designed to provide general information about the use of Census data in federal funding distribution. Participants will be exposed to the importance of census data, the various databases and statistical measures used in federal funding, and Census 2000 questionnaire content and its relationship to federal assistance programs.	✓		✓	✓		✓
How Small Business Can Profit from Information The power to use and analyze census data will be available to more small businesses than ever. Local data from the U.S. Census Bureau provides information indispensable to the owner or manager of a small business. This half-day seminar will cover a variety of topics to help small business understand their customer, their competitor, and the changing marketplace.	✓		✓			✓

2010 Census

In 2008, the U.S. Census Bureau begins two of the most vital stages of the 2010 census process for American Indian Reservations, the Tribal Statistical Areas Program (TSAP) along with the Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP). The TSAP offers tribes the opportunity to identify and delineate boundaries for American Indian and Alaska Native specific statistical areas for the reporting of Census Bureau data. The PSAP is a geographic program that offers regional and local participants the opportunity to review and update, if necessary, statistical geographic entities for use in tabulating and publishing data from Census 2010, the American Community Survey (ACS), and potentially other censuses and surveys. The four statistical geographic entities included in the PSAP are county-based census tracts, block groups, CDPs, and census county divisions (CCDs). The PSAP and the TSAP are parallel geographic programs. For more information, visit CEIC's Census 2010 web site at <http://ceic.mt.gov/Census2010.asp>



Reservation Fliers - Economic Benchmark for Tribes

In December 2006, the Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research and Analysis Bureau spearheaded an effort with active participation from CEIC, the Governor's Office and the support of the Tribal Nations through the State Tribal Economic Development Council, to release Reservation Fliers for Montana Indian Reservations. The fliers provide a detailed picture of the economic and demographic status of the reservations including specific data on annual average wages, employment levels, agricultural statistics, income distribution and more. The fliers were updated in 2008 and now include the Little Shell Chippewa Tribe. Access the fliers from CEIC's American Indian Data web page at http://ceic.mt.gov/american_indian_data.asp